

Statement of Intent

At Exhall Junior School, we aim to equip pupils with the knowledge, skills and understanding as set out in the National Curriculum Design and Technology (DT) Programme of Study. It is our intention to offer the children the chance to use creative thinking and design within a defined purpose and tangible outcome. Through a variety of creative and practical activities, pupils are taught the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to engage in a process of designing and making.

Through the study of D&T, pupils acquire a broad range of subject knowledge and draw on disciplines such as mathematics, science, engineering, computing and art. Pupils learn how to take risks, become resourceful, innovative enterprising and capable citizens. Through the evaluation of past and present design and technology, they develop a critical understanding of its impact on daily life and the wider world.

Progression of skills underpin the curriculum planning and are used to ensure that prior knowledge, skills, and vocabulary are built upon in subsequent year groups. Embedding the Exhall Junior School values of being 'safe ready and respectful' ensures pupils are; kept, and stay safe, ready to learn and open to new experiences, and are respectful of their learning environment and others.

Special Educational Needs (SEND) / Pupil Premium / Higher Prior Achievers

According to OFSTED, 'pupils with special educational needs make better progress in D&T than in most other subjects'. This is because designing and making usable products gives pupils a real sense of achievement. They benefit from experiencing their own progress and taking responsibility for their own learning. They enjoy the practical application of their ideas. Plus, their personal engagement with the task improves attention span, patience, persistence and commitment.'

With this in mind, SEN/D pupils can achieve results that compare or even exceed their peers. Design and Technology offers these pupils the chance to experience achievement at a level that may seldom occur elsewhere in their school life. Therefore, we aim to regard and equip SEN/D learners, to ensure they excel and achieve to the best of their best potential.

At Exhall Junior School:

- Work will be adapted in a variety of ways so that all children are able to meet the learning objective in activities suitable to their own individual needs.
- A range of equipment and resources are offered so that all children can make progress during a lesson, e.g. use of templates or guides, different tools etc.
- Small group/1:1 adult support is given where required.
- We use teacher and self-assessment to quickly identify any child who requires additional support developing specific skills and techniques.
- These pupils will then receive additional support or resources to use in order for them to successfully meet the learning objective.

Funding and support is allocated to Pupil Premium children, to ensure the learning process is unhindered and accessible. Accessing the Design and Technology curriculum for these pupil's is offered by way of classroom support, supply of required learning resources, interventions, and support to develop mastery of learning.

When regarding children who are higher achievers, the intention at Exhall Juniors is to allow development through creative and critical thinking. Exposing such pupils to a wider-scope of experiences and processes in Design and Technology, will help pupils to explore and develop creative thinking, leading to richer outcomes. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

Implementation

At Exhall Juniors, we ensure that teachers have the required subject knowledge to ensure D&T is taught effectively and promotes lifelong trajectories. Subject matter is presented clearly and made accessible to all learners. Teachers carefully check learning and identify misconceptions, providing direct feedback. Teaching is designed to ensure children know more and remember more through a cross-curricular approach. Pupils are given ownership of their learning by way of self-assessment, opportunities to reflect on outcomes, and make changes to ensure positive outcomes. Exhall Juniors aims to provide further opportunities to engage and enthuse pupil's interests in D&T such as forest school, parent/pupil sessions, and educational visits.

Impact

Children will know more, remember more and understand more about DT. Assessment of children's learning in Design Technology is an ongoing monitoring of children's understanding through the knowledge and skills they acquire. This is undertaken by both the class teacher and pupil, throughout lessons. This assessment is then used to inform adaption of a task within a lesson, support and challenge, to ensure an inclusive approach is met.

Design Technology is also monitored by the subject leader throughout the year in the form of knowledge audits, book monitoring, looking at outcomes which are measured against age-based progression grids. Pupil voice allows discussions to be based upon the children's learning experience and helps us to understand and evaluate the impact of the teaching taking place. Children will retain prior-learning and explicitly make connections between what they have previously learned and what they are currently learning. We expect pupils to be engaged and excited learners who question each part of the design process. A range of different activities is on offer including practical lessons, research lessons, showcase of inventions and evaluations of designs. Displays in school will showcase children's work. Children at Exhall Juniors will be well-equipped with the skills and knowledge to enable them to be ready for the curriculum at Key Stage 3